

# Charter

**George C. Marshall Space Flight Center**  
Marshall Space Flight Center, Alabama 35812

# NASA

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

Ares Projects Office (APO)	MPR 1100.1	Charter Number: JP01
	Effective Date: September 18, 2007	

**Subject:** Ares Projects Office (APO)

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Ares Projects Office (APO) is responsible for executing the Level III, Launch Vehicle Projects role assigned to MSFC by the Constellation Program, Level II. These responsibilities include activities associated with the Ares I crew launch vehicle, Ares V cargo launch vehicle, and earth departure stage. The APO is responsible for the propulsion hardware elements and associated systems, test and flight operations, and facilities. The APO Vehicle Integration Office is responsible for APO integrated systems engineering. The APO manages the performance of civil service and industry personnel and resources in the planning, design, engineering, integration, development, production, testing, delivery, and operations of the MSFC element projects, ensuring that safety, schedule, performance, and cost goals are met.

## GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The APO manager is responsible for: design, development, manufacturing, testing, launch processing support, flight performance, anomaly resolution, and refurbishment/overhaul of the respective propulsion elements; and delivery of flight hardware in support of the Constellation Program (CP) flight schedule. This responsibility includes ensuring all safety goals are met; managing technical and programmatic requirements, budgets, and schedules; managing resident offices, facilities, personnel, and other resources required to meet hardware development and production delivery requirements; negotiating task agreements; assisting administration of prime contracts and resolving associated contractor requirements, performance, and technical issues; ensuring MSFC and CP management are informed of project status and pertinent issues, and recommending courses of action required by technical, schedule, or other contingencies; participating as a member of the CP Program Requirements Control Board and serving as Chairperson, APO Configuration Control Board.
2. The APO Chief Engineer reports to the MSFC Engineering Director and is responsible for ensuring technical excellence and for: serving as the focal point for engineering expertise and applications for all APO responsibilities. Responsibilities include ensuring that all aspects of the project engineering activities, including in-house and contractor responsibilities, are accomplished within the appropriate technical requirements and cost and schedule constraints. This responsibility includes assuring all safety goals are met.

3. The Project Offices are responsible for:

- a. All activities associated with program planning and control including managing and assessing overall project cost, schedule, and procurement status, including earned value management implementation and assessments for the entire project.
- b. The overall integration and integrated systems engineering for the Ares I and Ares V launch vehicles. This responsibility includes any delegated integration functions from Constellation Program, Level II; overall requirements development and management; integrated systems design analysis and control; systems integration issue resolution and reporting; and integration of flight test planning and execution.
- c. All activities associated with the design, development, testing, fabrication, integration, and flight qualification for the Ares I and Ares V first stage propulsion element.
- d. All activities associated with the design, development, testing, fabrication, integration, and flight qualification for the Ares I upper stage propulsion element, including initial planning for the Ares V earth-departure stage.
- e. All activities associated with the design, development, testing, fabrication, integration, and flight qualification for the Ares V core stage engine propulsion element. Additional responsibilities include initial planning and requirements development for the Ares V core stage.
- f. All activities associated with the design, development, testing, fabrication, integration, and flight qualification for the Ares I upper stage engine, and the Ares V earth departure stage engine propulsion element.

*Original signed by and dated September 18, 2007*

David A. King  
Director